

MINUTES OF CENTRAL SQUASH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 7th DECEMBER 2013, AT THE WANGANUI SQUASH CLUB, WANGANUI COMMENCING AT 5:41PM

Meeting opened 5:41pm

Present:

Grant Smith President, Pauline Slovak (Minutes taker), Sally Stantiall, Dianne Tasker, Stuart Tasker, Lily Stantiall, Jocelyn Broadbent Rangitikei SC, Rob Brownrigg (Treasurer), Marilyn Dolan Foxton SC, Robert Auld Taihape SC, Jason Fletcher SPN, Kent Darlington Wanganui, Kelly Faint SPN, Andrea Herbert Tararua SC, Rod Bannister WSC, Pauline and Len Stachurski Inglewood SC, Kaye Elliott, Janice and Graeme Trevathan KP, Jackie Taylor Ohakune, Rebecca and Christine Barnett SPN, Jackie Tapp Taihape, Kashif Shuja SPN, Kylie and Tori Claridge SPN, Brian and Marianne Thump Ohakune, Peter Murphy Levin, Peter and Emma Rowe, Lauren Wikohika, John Laurenson Ohakune, Shey Rangihu, Hamish Raleigh, John Fraser Foxton, Chris Kempson Inglewood, Kelvin Rapson RiverCity, Kylie Hewett.

Apologies: Andrew Doig (Life Member), Lois Mills (Life Member), Graeme Randolph (LM), Ashhurst - Pohongina SC, Joss Urbahn (Life Member), Mike Jack Kawarua Park SC, Janet Andrews Inglewood SC, Alistair Beveridge Ash-Poh SC, Mike Bailey Stratford SC, Grant and Kaitlyn Watts SPN, Adele Peters, Janet Andrews, Waitara SC, Patea SC, Denise Ramsay SPN, Robert Auld, Alisatair White, Roger Suckling, Kelly Van den Berg, Lindsay Petterson SPN, Sylvia Penny Kawarua Park SC.

Club Roll Call:

Foxton, Inglewood, Kawarua Park, Levin, Ohakune, SquashGym Palmerston North, RiverCity, Rangitikei, Taihape, Tararua, Wanganui. 11 clubs present.

Confirmation of Minutes:

Minutes from AGM held on 18th November 2012 at Wanganui Squash Club were taken as read and correct. Matters arising - none.

Minutes accepted by Dianne Tasker, seconded by John Laurenson. Carried

Adoption of Annual Report – Received by all present.

All reports to be adopted together except financial report. Grant Smith acknowledged all our sponsors especially our major Sponsors, Prince, MacDougall's Rural Supplies, Protecta Insurance and also all our Trust funders as well as Sport Manawatu, Sport Wanganui, Sport Taranaki and Squash New Zealand. Acknowledgement to the Life Members, and it was nice to see Marilyn Dolan, a Life Member present.

Presidents Report – Grant Smith

The Presidents report is taken as read by all. Grant commented on last years Presidents report by John Laurenson, John gave us some challenges, he recommended we get some programmes in place and we have gained quite a good level of Trust funding for our large region which has allowed us to put in place some good programmes for coaching throughout the district. With such a large district it is quite challenging to get everyone together but in the past year we have taken some big steps in rebuilding the district. We have tried to rewrite the imbalance of having one very large strong club with development in other clubs in Wanganui and Taranaki regions and have plans in place for next year, with development zone squads. The District took some ownership with Interclub, Grant thanks Michael Bailey, John Laurenson, Marilyn Dolan and Sally Stantiall for their great work with the Zones and Inter club. Financially we have also done well, thank you to Rob for his hard work. We have balanced the books and managed to make a small profit. Nationally membership has grown by 2% but we have seen a small drop in numbers due to more casual players being present. On the playing front we have seen some of the talent our district has on the courts tonight. Rebecca Barnett has joined us as a Massey Student, she is from Wellington and we are happy to claim her. Rebecca won the Juniors title, Kaitlyn Watts won her age group and was awarded an AMP scholarship, Rod Bannister won both New Zealand and Australian Masters titles on offer and was selected for the New Zealand Master team to play against Australia. The SquashGym Women's Mitchell cup team won the premier women's club competition against some strong Auckland teams after 40 years, so that was pretty special. We topped the national titles at Superchamps of all districts, the Wanganui E grade Men's

team, Ohakune E grade Women's team and SquashGym Men's B, C and D teams all winning National Titles. We also did very well as secondary schools with the juniors performing well. Champion of Champions, which this district takes pretty seriously. We sent away our team to Nationals in Christchurch and we had two title winners Luke Jones who is an A grader at 17 years of age won the Men's B grade and Annaliese Faint won the Women's E grade.

Operations and finance we have done well and that will be covered by Rob Brownrigg in the finance report and Jason Fletcher in the Development report.

I would like to thank everyone who has been associated with running the district for their hard work and thanks to Pauline Slovak our Administrator for all her hard work keeping us all informed. Also I would like to thank Jason Fletcher our District Coach he has also had a lot to do this year and has started some great programmes for us. Thanks to his group of coaches Grant Watts, John Keenan, Kaye Elliott and Peter Mischefski who have done great work. Thanks to the committee as well, we have tried to get everyone together and had meetings in Taranaki, Wanganui and Manawatu. It has always been hard with quite a diverse region and a lot of travel, but thanks to everyone for their hard work.

In my report I have included a few interesting facts people may not be aware of. I think our sport is in pretty good shape and we can grow the sport here in Central District. In conclusion I would just like to thank everyone that has been involved as we look forward to 2014.

District Coach report – Jason Fletcher

I won't take too long as you all have my report in the Annual Report. In my first year I didn't achieve all I wanted to but got many goals completed with the highlight being the coaching conference in Stratford it was really well received with a good number of attendees. We plan to do it again next year and we will copy the format we get from Squash New Zealand. The performance programme with Kent is going very well and we have seen good results and improvements because of this. Next year some main projects to look out for are; we have funding for some KiwiSport programmes in Taranaki & Manawatu plus we are hoping to get some for Wanganui as well. Next year Squash New Zealand is launching Kiwi Squash, which will be involved on a national level. Coaching modules will be run again next year but in a slightly different format. A calendar will be coming out with modules that will be available. Clubs if you can let me know of any specific modules you would like.

We are looking at developing zone squads in Manawatu, which is pretty much already rolling, Wanganui and Taranaki zone squads to be developed with coaching and associated programmes.

In summary a pretty good year with more to do.

Key thing is if there are schools near you, then engage with them. Also the casual/social player if your looking to grow the game, the casual/social player is an area we don't look after as well as we should, so encourage these players.

Performance Directors Report – Kent Darlington

Our Central Senior team and High Performance programme for 2013 continued to move forward in the right direction after a programme was put into place in the previous year. This year our HP programme saw our senior players involved in two squad camps, two One Day rep fixtures and the New Zealand Nationals. It was fantastic to be able to get together as a wider group with the aim of building up our (HP) programme this year and putting Central Squash back on the map. The goal this year was to build up the 'Team and Camp culture' with the aim to also build good work ethics and team competition amongst players.

The first Squad camp was held in April at SquashGym and Massey where players were able to train, eat and sleep at the institute, along with solid hitting and drills at the SquashGym courts. This gave an insight of what was to come for the year.

We then travelled to play Squash Wellington in June for a One Day fixture. This was the second year that we have had these fixtures and it's great to be able to give our players and those on the fringes, some rep experience. Unfortunately the team lost 14 – 10 in matches against Wellington. Two major points that didn't help Central's cause were our number two, Matt Nation ended up getting injured at the end of his first match, therefore had to default his afternoon game, plus we had four five set matches and none went our way. In this format, anytime a player gets a chance to close out a game then they need to do so, however the team failed to capitalise on the five set matches that eventuated and that hurt our chances.

We then played Squash Eastern in our second One Dayer in the middle of July at SquashGym Palmerston North and again backed up the previous years win with the exact same score of 19 – 5 to retain the Newbigin Shield. Two weeks later we had our final Squad Camp prior to the Nationals. This was again an overnight stay being based at the Stratford squash club and St Mary's Diocesan School. This camp had our Men's and Women's team lineups that were heading off to Nationals and it was an exercise of sharpening up and preparing individually and as a team for the upcoming event.

So the business end of the year saw the team travelling to Royal Oak Squash Club in Auckland for a brutal five days of squash where the players potentially had up to 8 matches during that time. In the individuals we had Kashif Shuja who was seeded number 3. He performed well and kept his seeding after beating NZ squad member Paul Coll in four sets for the 3rd/4th spot. Tom Nash put up a superb fight in the first round and just about caused a major upset as he lost narrowly 12/10 in the fifth set to the number 8th seed Chris Van der Salm. Regan Smith also performed well in the Men's Div. 1, after being seeded 4th he got through to the final and finished runner up.

In the Women's draw Danielle Fourie was seeded 9th but after winning her second round match she was knocked out in the Classic Plate semi to finish 7th/8th. Three of our women were in Div. 1 with Jackie Tapp finishing 4th and Emily Nash the 10th seed playing well to take out the Plate Final to finish 9th.

Straight into the team's event on the Monday and after a reshuffle of the draws the Men's team stayed 3rd seeds, while the Women's team moved up one spot to 7th. The Men beat Eastern first up 4/0. We then came up against Canterbury the 2nd seeds in the semi-final. We eventually lost 3 – 1. The matches were close, unfortunately Kashif Shuja couldn't pull out another win against Paul Coll. Matt Nation lost in four sets in a brutal match that saw three sets end up 12/10 and Joseph Watts lost to Chris Van der Salm 12/10 in the fifth set, while Tom Nash dug deep to pull off another five set win. We then played Bay of Plenty in our last match and beat them 3/1 for 3rd place.

The Women really performed well in this year's team's event. They lost to Bay of Plenty 4/0 in the first round but then upset the 6th seeds Wellington 3/1 in the afternoon round. Jackie Tapp and Kaitlyn Watts both produced solid efforts for the team. Into the plate final they took on Waikato the 8th seeds and again finished off in style with another 3/1 solid win. Once again it was Jackie Tapp and this time Emily Nash playing great squash to round out a fantastic team effort.

So overall a happy result for the players and management throughout the year. We look forward to building again on this with our programme in 2014. With a number of promising players coming through, it's up to each individual to now strive and be the best they can. Hopefully that by being part of the Central Squads and our HP programme, players find value in the support we offer and a winning culture is created. We hope the team environment not only helps get team results but also personal goals on the squash court. We do however have to continue to do the hard yards, individually and as a team.

A big thanks goes out to our Central committee for supporting our HP programme, to all our representative players who have worn the Central colours this year and also to our two coaches Jason Fletcher and Grant Watts.

Grant Smith thanked Kent for all his work, he takes it pretty seriously and has put some pride back into the Central colours. The goal for 2014 is to win a National title.

District Captain/iSquash Administrators report – Marilyn Dolan

Interclub play offs this year were moved to the Taranaki zone to Hawera which we found great as we got some Taranaki teams to play and we have suggested to go back again next year. Both districts went really well with interclub. Super Champs and Champion of Champions had great results. iSquash next year has the big changes with the grading list being combined men and women. Go onto the Squash New Zealand website where all the information is. It will be interesting to see how it all goes.

Grant thanked Marilyn for the huge amount of work she does for the district. Constantly chasing up things and making sure we are one of the best organised districts in the country, we are one of the only districts to have a Captain and she keeps everything in order with Interclub, Super Champs and Champion of Champions.

Masters report

Mike Jack report taken as read by all.

Grant summarised. Mike Jack did a great job getting a Central Representative team together for Nationals, we have a good number of active masters in our region, many who are sitting here now, but we really needed to be represented on a national stage and we have not been for a few years, so it was important that we did. Thanks to those players that made themselves available and competed, we were competitive and next year it is in Palmerston North so the challenge will be out to make sure we are even better. On the playing side well done Rod Bannister for winning back-to-back NZ/Aust titles and also making the NZ Masters team.

Thanks to Inglewood for hosting Central Masters this year, it will be in Kawarua Park next year and we are sure they will do a great job hosting this.

Juniors report – Dianne Tasker

Another successful year for the juniors. The 'Junior Prince series' was well attended with 137 players over 14 tournaments taking part. Great to see some younger junior players coming through.

In March we took 22 junior players to Eastern and played against them, which we won narrowly by 2 games. Junior age group champs in October, once again Kaitlyn Watts dominated in her age group convincingly taking out the under 13 girls title for the second year in a row and Luke Jones was the other mentionable who came second in the under 17 boys division. We have quite a few younger players coming through so looking for good results from them in the future. In the teams event the girls didn't play to their seeding but they are a very young team with only one of the team moving into seniors next year so they will be around together for a long time yet. With the boys they played to their 7th seeding and again they are a young team and will be together for a few years yet.

The Rainbow challenge against Wellington, unfortunately didn't get played this year due to a few personnel problems in Wellington, which have now been sorted and this is scheduled to be played early next year.

Our top Junior players, Kaitlyn Watts and Luke Jones and a few other players unfortunately all come from SquashGym but are doing really well, Emily Nash, Courtney Trail and Corbin Faint. I would like to mention about our biggest club being a monopoly and how this hasn't helped our smaller clubs. These small clubs need to try and keep our juniors coming through and getting picked up by Central and New Zealand and not just have SquashGym dominate. SquashGym are great and are doing a great job but we need other clubs to come in on the coat tails of this.

Of course without the support of the parents helping out, the juniors could not perform so thanks to them. They make our job much easier.

As my kids are no longer juniors I am resigning as Junior Convenor and from the Central Squash Committee

Grant Smith thanked Di for all her work and her team of Kelly Faint and Andrea Herbert. He thanked her for leading the juniors well and agreed there needs to be a widening of the base and hopefully with this we will see some great results.

Manawatu – Wanganui - Ruapehu Zone report – Sally Stantiall

Report received by all.

Sally mentioned that attendance at the zone meetings were poor and could have been a lot better. It would have been great to have a lot more people giving their input and you can't complain if you don't give input. People often said they did not know the meetings were on, she asked that people make sure their details are up to date with the District Secretary so they know where and when the meetings are and attend them.

Other than that we had a great Inter club sponsored by MacDougalls Rural Supplies, which is in the pipeline to run again next year. It would not have run as smooth as it did without Marilyn's help and hard work.

Taranaki Zone Report – Michael Bailey

Taken as read, Grant summarised. Very sad to see the disestablishment of the Opunaki club and this was due to personnel changes up there. We have kept in touch with them in the hope they will get involved again.

Great to see the establishment of junior interclub which has gone well and thanks to the KP club and Jacinta and Chelsea for organising that.

Greater level of involvement of Central around High Performance, and with the Coaching of Coaches course which Jason Fletcher ran up there. Also the relationship with Sport Taranaki has improved greatly so hopefully leveraging next year to get some local funding and capability up there.

Inter club is going to Waitara next year and the Zone will be run by the Eltham club.

Thanks to Michael for all his activity over the past year.

Grant moved that all those reports be adopted, seconded by Marilyn Dolan, carried.

Finance Report and Statement of Accounts:

Highlights for the year were moving over to the Zero accounting platform and it has allowed us to send out electronic invoices and everything is stored in the cloud. Historic accounts have not been added and there have been a few hiccups.

We did make a profit just under \$7,500. This profit is slightly overstated as the Junior Nationals were held on the last weekend of October so the cost for that was not included. This would bring the actual profit down to approximately \$3,000. Still overall a good result. Thanks to Pauline again, Grant stated how she did a fantastic job gaining funding for the district. Sending the representative teams away is a huge cost each year and Pauline did well to get funding to cover most of these costs. Affiliation fees have been paid promptly by most clubs so thank you for that. Only a few struggling with that and we are keeping in contact and working with them so hopefully we will see some improvement in the next year. Cotton Kelly have done a review and we got a tick off there so that is great and it is all included in the Annual Report.

The budget which is also in the Annual Report, a lot of that is based on what we have done this year, as Grant mentioned we are taking the coaching to the next level so there are some cost associated with this included in the budget. The budget includes money coming in from grants and donations so if this does not come in we cant spend it and some things may not go ahead. Still looking to record a small profit for next year.

Rob Brownrigg moved that his report and the 2013 accounts be accepted. Seconded by Pete Murphy. Carried

Election of 2013/2014 Board/Committee

Position	Nominee	Nominated By
President	Grant Smith	SquashGym PN
Treasurer	Rob Brownrigg	SquashGym PN
Participation Director	Position not filled	
Performance Director	Kent Darlington	Wanganui SC
Marketing Director	Rod Bannister	Wanganui SC
Management Director	Position not filled	
Junior Development Convenor	Kelly Faint	SquashGym PN
Players Representative	Kaye Elliott	Kawaroa Park SC
District Captain	Marilyn Dolan	Levin SC/Foxton SC
District Stat	Marilyn Dolan	Levin SC/Foxton SC
District Coach	Jason Fletcher	SquashGym PN
Committee	Mike Jack Andrea Herbert Kelly van den Burg Alastair White Sally Stantiall John Laurenson	Kawaroa Park Tararua SquashGym PN Wanganui SC Dianne Tasker Ohakune SC

Grant Smith moved, Rob Brownrigg seconded, Carried.

General Business:

Grant Smith – Explained the Central Squash Trust information given to all, Central Squash had a good dollop of cash reserves so as a committee this year we decided to invest this so it didn't get washed up and

go into general funds and disappear. Central Cricket has done this a decade ago and has grown it into \$850,000 - \$900,000 and what that does is fund all their junior programs so they don't have to rely on Grant funding. That is the vision I have and the committee had for going forward with it this year. We have ring-fenced approximately \$40,000. The plan is for the capital to always stay there and interest built off of it will be paid out as funding for club, activity or player applications. The Trustees are the Life Members and the current President of Central Squash at the time. This keeps the Life Members connected with the game as well as the Trust members. To build the capital, Central surpluses will be put back into the trust so we can see the capital build and also subscriptions from Friends of the Central Squash Trust. Grant encouraged people to become a member for only \$35 to help build the Trust. We would like to build this up to at least one hundred or so members.

Squash New Zealand AGM was last week, which myself, Pauline Slovak and Jason Fletcher attended. The national annual report is available for anyone to read. Our New Zealand association has done very well this year and has grown the memberships by 2% around the country. High Performance and Commonwealth Games are extremely important to them for funding with Sport New Zealand. If Joelle King goes really well then our whole Association will go well, so hopefully she will come back with some medals next year.

Squash NZ Hall of Fame, has inducted another 7 members into the Hall of Fame and Central has the most members in that Hall of Fame. This shows you historically what regard the game has in our district. Of the 7 new inductees 2 were Central players. The first was Trevor Johnson who was a household name in the 70's and was New Zealand Champion. Also the late Jade Wilson who was living in Palmerston North at the time she was the World Junior Champion. It was great to see both of those people inducted.

Pauline Slovak – Please make sure you take your clubs allocation of the New Zealand tournament calendar. The wall calendars will be sent out directly to the clubs by Squash New Zealand along with some other information. There is also a large Central calendar available but this has an alteration to be made where an Inglewood tournament was missed so this will be updated and posted to all the clubs.

Grant Smith asked if there was any other general business?

John Laurenson – We left you in the lurch a little bit maybe last year but we were already struggling with numbers of people and a number of other things. It's great to see the number of people here and what we have achieved this year; its excellent and I thank Grant for all his efforts.

Grant Smith - Thank you all for attending the AGM and supporting the Central Squash Association in 2013.

The President declared the meeting closed at 6.20pm.

Minutes certified as true and correct by District President

Signed _____ Date _____

Central Squash Awards Winners:

Premier Awards

Player of the year - Rebecca Barnett
 Most improved junior player - Tori Claridge
 Most improved senior player - Denise Ramsay
 Services/player – women masters - Pauline Stachurski
 Services/player –men masters - Len Stachurski
 Personality of the year - Stuart Tasker
 Coach of the year - Brian and Marianne Thrupp
 Administrator of the year - Sally Stantiall
 District club of the year - Inglewood

Acknowledgements:

Volunteer/contribution to squash - Chris Kempson
 Team of the year - Ohakune E grade women